



On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff  
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## Board of Trustees appoints two members, approves new academic programs

*The following summary of the February 11 and 12 Board of Trustees meeting was first reported to the campus community in two February 25 e-mails.)*

Board of Trustees Chair Glenn Anderson has announced the appointments of two new members: Dr. Harvey Goodstein and Dr. Tom L. Humphries. The selection of the new members received the unanimous approval of the trustees at their February 11 to 12 meeting. Goodstein and Humphries will officially join the board at its meeting in May.

Goodstein graduated from Gallaudet in 1965, later earning master's and Ph.D. degrees from Catholic University and American University, respectively. His tenure at Gallaudet spanned over 30 years with much of that time spent as a faculty member and chair of the Mathematics Department. In 2002, Dr. Goodstein led the planning efforts for the internationally acclaimed Deaf Way II conference in Washington, D.C., that brought over 10,000 people from every corner of the globe to celebrate deaf scholarship, culture, and art. Goodstein also served as president of the Maryland Association of the Deaf, a trustee of the Maryland School for the Deaf, vice president of the National Association of the Deaf, and chair of the National Association of the Deaf Telecommunications Committee. He and his wife, Astrid Amann Goodstein [Gallaudet Class of 1965], reside in Arizona.

Humphries is also a Gallaudet graduate, receiving a bachelor's degree in 1968 and a master's degree in 1972. He earned a Ph.D. from the Union Institute and is currently an associate professor in the Teacher Education Program at the

University of California, San Diego. Humphries' research has shaped many of the theories applied in deaf studies today and he is frequently asked to present his work to academic audiences worldwide. He is also a prolific author; among his many contributions to the literature on deaf studies is the book, *Inside Deaf Culture*, recently published by Harvard University Press and co-authored with his wife [and former Board of Trustees member] Dr. Carol Padden. Humphries has been honored by the Gallaudet University Alumni Association with the Laurent Clerc Award [2004] and the Outstanding Leadership Award [1995].

"The Board of Trustees welcomes Dr. Goodstein and Dr. Humphries and looks forward to working with them on behalf of Gallaudet," said Anderson. "Their expertise, experience, and energy will contribute significantly to the board's efforts."

The board also unanimously approved two new academic degrees, the "Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.): American Sign Language/English Bilingual Deaf Education (K-12) Program." and the "Bachelor of Arts in Interpretation."

The M.A.T. will attract undergraduate teacher candidates who want to extend their educational program by one year in order to receive a master's degree that will lead to certification as a teacher of K-12 deaf and hard of hearing children. It also emphasizes the equal importance of ASL and English in the classroom, the school, and the community. The new B.A. in interpretation was created in response to the

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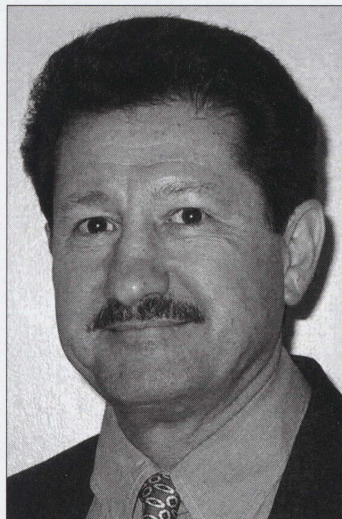
## Board's 'check up' indicates excellent health, says Dr. Anderson

*(Note: The following are excerpts from Board of Trustees Chair Glenn Anderson's February 11 address at a luncheon attended by the board and members of the campus community. Dr. Anderson's talk, "Planning for the Future through Strategic Board Development," gave insights on how the efforts of the Board of Trustees tie in with the planning for Gallaudet's future that is underway at the University.)*

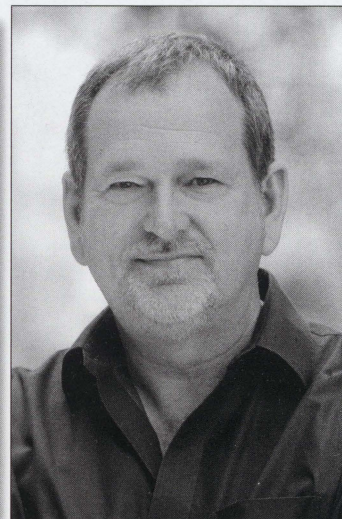
"... To begin my remarks, I want to use the analogy of an annual medical check-up. ... For large organizations, it's not as easy

to take time out from their busy schedules to do annual check-ups. The organizations have to keep daily operations going. Still, it is important for an organization to take time to assess what it has done, where it is now, and where it wants to go in the future. Sometimes organizations use consultants to help do the annual check-up. Other times, the organization may rely on its employees and customers for feedback to help improve the health of the organization and help it get to where it wants to go in the future.

*continued on page 3*



Dr. Harvey Goodstein



Dr. Tom L. Humphries

## Alumni house to undergo renovations

The Gallaudet University Alumni Association (GUAA) and Gallaudet have announced plans to begin a \$1.7 million renovation project for the Peikoff Alumni House ("Ole Jim").

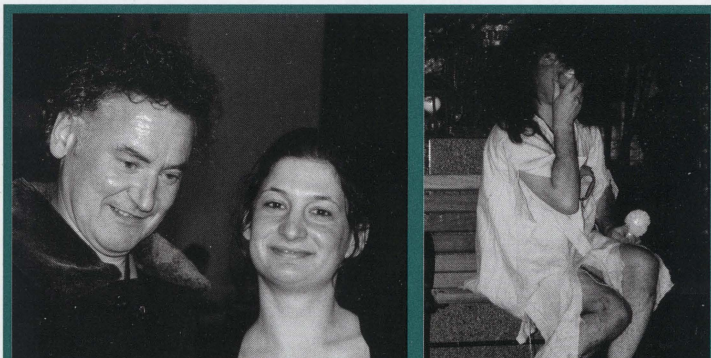
The project, which involves exterior and interior renovations, is expected to begin after Homecoming 2005 and to be completed by Homecoming 2006. Sam Sonnenstrahl, director of alumni relations and GUAA executive director, emphasized that it is Alumni Relations' goal for the project not to disrupt Homecoming activities slated to take place in the alumni house.

The bulk of the project will be financed from the Alumni House Maintenance Fund, one of the three funds established by the GUAA in 1964 to mark its centennial anniversary. Much of the remainder

of the funding will be supported by the University's deferred maintenance funding.

"This renovation project would not have been possible without strong support from President Jordan and Vice President [of Administration and Finance] Paul Kelly," said Sonnenstrahl. "Both agree that the Peikoff Alumni House is a campus treasure as well as a welcome center for Gallaudet alumni."

Peikoff Alumni House was constructed in 1881 and served as the first gymnasium on Gallaudet's campus. Designed by architect Frederick Winters, the building housed one of the nation's first indoor swimming pools. It also had a basketball court and a two-lane bowling alley. Members of Congress frequently used the facilities. 



Gallaudet alumna Louise Stern recently completed her master's degree in contemporary art at Sotheby's in London, England. Her thesis was on deaf artists Joseph Grigely and Aaron Williamson. Stern gave a lecture to the campus community on February 16 entitled, "Aaron Williamson: The Context of Deafness, The Pool of Silence," based in part on the work she did for her thesis. Her lecture was followed by Williamson's performance, "Victor, the Wild Boy of Aveyron," based on the true story of a wild boy who lived in isolation in the woods near a French village around 1800. According to Williamson, the boy was believed to be deaf and was taken to the Institute for Deaf-Mutes in Paris where Jean Itard, the famous oralist—and a late convert to sign language—attempted and utterly failed to teach the boy language through oralism. He added that his performance was an exploration of what "legacy" the wild boy might have for deaf people, and perhaps is a "reminder that the history of deaf people is entwined with that of the hearing world's assertion of their 'normal' or 'correct' mode of communication" and behavior. (Left) Stern and Williamson are shown together after her lecture; (right) a scene from Williamson's performance. The event was sponsored by the Honors Program.





The ladies who work in the Transportation Department were treated to a surprise Valentine's Brunch by the department's men, who prepared and served the food. "They went overboard!" said Darnese Nicholson, department director. "They got a lot of brownie points for it." Here, making sure that plates and cups stay full are drivers (from left) Ernie Young, Jimmy Bowman, and Lawrence Curtis. The men are shown serving (clockwise from left): Kim Craig, Cynthia Marshall, Rita Laster, Tonya Gamble, and Nicholson.



## Administration & Finance

### Sharrell McCaskill—Equal Opportunity Programs director


There's a new director of Equal Opportunity Programs, but she's not new to Gallaudet—Sharrell McCaskill, who has been at Gallaudet for 15 years.

As director, McCaskill is responsible for assuring that applicants are given equal consideration for job vacancies, and for implementing the University's Affirmative Action Plan. She is also responsible for developing or revising employment policies to comply with the law and assisting departments in identifying recruiting sources that will provide a qualified and diverse applicant pool.

Additionally, McCaskill counsels University employees to resolve work-related complaints informally, or as a mediator for formal complaints within the workplace.

McCaskill first came to Gallaudet as an administrative secretary in the Department of

Athletics, juggling travel and game logistics for 17 teams and over 32 part-time coaches. While working for athletics, McCaskill earned her master's of science degree in management from the University of Maryland. She then moved to the University's Career Center as an employment/internship advisor. In the Career Center, McCaskill worked with students seeking internships, placing them in public, private, and federal agencies all over the world. In addition, she gave seminars to employers on best practice strategies for working with people with disabilities.

McCaskill's office is in College Hall, Room 312. Anyone wishing to meet with her should request an appointment via e-mail, [sharrell.mccaskill@gallaudet.edu](mailto:sharrell.mccaskill@gallaudet.edu), or call Chissy Dixon, x5075, in College Hall, Room 102. 

## CLERC CENTER HAPPENINGS

### Clerc Center to offer leadership development seminar for deaf and hard of hearing students


By Susan M. Flanigan

This summer, the Clerc Center's Honors Program will host "Summit 2005: A Leadership Development Seminar for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students." The seminar, which runs from June 20 to July 1 at the Clerc Center, will offer students challenging learning experiences in the areas of higher-level academics and leadership skills.

The program is open to students from around the country currently in ninth, 10th, and 11th grades. The students will participate in a variety of activities, including Advanced Placement (AP) Preview classes (subjects offered will be AP English, AP Biology, and AP U.S. History), leadership discussions and simulations, a journey through deaf history, and a weekend tour of Washington, D.C. Program activi-

ties will be held at various locations of the Clerc Center, and the students will be housed in the MSSD dorms.

"We are excited to be offering an honors program this summer for students from around the country," said Daniel Dukes, coordinator of the Clerc Center's Honors Program. "Our goal for the summer program is to help students reach their full potential academically and as leaders. It's a great summer opportunity." Registration for the program is \$100 per student; meals and dorm accommodation will be provided. The students will be responsible for providing their own transportation to and from the summit. Enrollment is limited to 30 students.


For more information, contact [daniel.dukes@gallaudet.edu](mailto:daniel.dukes@gallaudet.edu) or visit the Honors Program website at [clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/Honors/index.html](http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/Honors/index.html). 

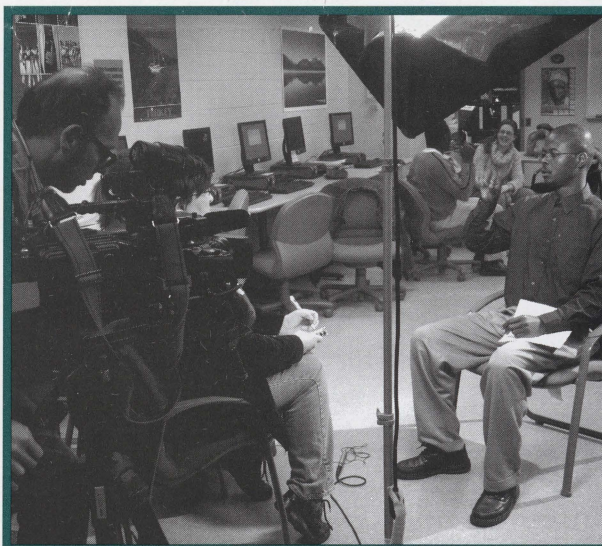
### Performance features ASL in deaf education

Entertained and reminisce with talented ASL performers as they tell of their experiences using ASL during their school/dorm days at a special March 11 performance entitled, "An Evening of ASL Memoirs in Deaf Education." The performance includes storytelling, comedy, skits, poetry, and mime told exclusively in ASL.

This special evening, hosted by Dr. Jane Norman, a professor in the Department of Communication Studies, provides a golden opportunity to see how visually rich stories are when presented in ASL. Since ASL is difficult to describe in spoken English, there will be no interpretation.

The performance will be from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Elstad Auditorium. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$15 for adults, and will be sold at the door.

The event is sponsored by Gallaudet's Minority Student Organizations and the Center for ASL/English Bilingual Education and Research. For more information, e-mail [laurene.simms@gallaudet.edu](mailto:laurene.simms@gallaudet.edu). 



A Voice of America production crew came to campus on February 11 to interview individuals involved with the international conference, "Deaf Women and HIV/AIDS in Africa," that will be held June 10 to 12 at the Kellogg Conference Hotel. The conference is being sponsored by Gallaudet and Howard University Graduate School to increase awareness of the importance of reaching all segments of the African population in the fight against HIV/AIDS. A special focus will be to identify effective ways to reach and communicate with deaf women in Africa who have HIV/AIDS. Here, the production crew interviews Nickson Kakiri, a Gallaudet student from Kenya and the 2003 recipient of the World Deaf Leadership Scholars Fund, in Gallaudet's Office of International Programs and Services. (Currently, there is not an official airdate for Voice of America's program on the conference.)

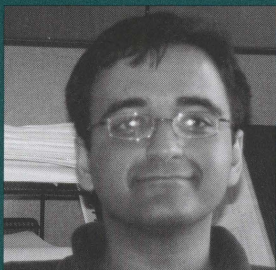
## ROVING REPORTER

### What are your plans for Spring Break?



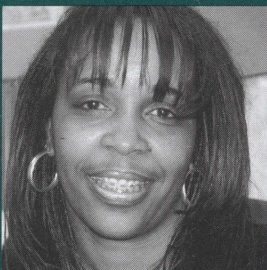
**Raylene Paulayne Lotz**  
senior  
psychology major

I won some free tickets from a Rathskellar event, so I'm taking Iceland Air to Reykjavik (Iceland) and spending some time exploring the geothermal features of the country. After that, I am going to Zurich, Switzerland, to ski the Alps and go shopping.



**Zeshan Shafiq**  
webmaster and desktop publisher  
Summer and Saturday @  
Gallaudet

I am planning to go house hunting in Virginia. My sister and parents just moved down from New York City, so we want to buy a place together. I also want to go back to New York to take some friends to visit the Statue of Liberty and see Ground Zero.



**Renee Smith**  
administrative secretary  
Summer and Saturday @  
Gallaudet

I am planning just to stay in and catch up on work. There is a lot we need to do to get ready for summer.



**MJ Bienvenu**  
chair  
ASL and Deaf Studies

There are many things on my plate while students are gone for Spring Break. We have some planning meetings that I need to go to, and I'll be working and catching up on various projects that we're heading up.



## ON THE GREEN

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## Board's 'check up'

*continued from page 1*

### University Strategic Planning Efforts

"The board applauds the Gallaudet community for the work done on the Climate Process, the New Directions report, and the Diversity strategic goals.

"The board has heard reports on the New Directions at past board meetings. As a board, we have talked about how truly unique the process used by the AAPC (Academic Affairs Planning Committee) was. It was clear to us that the AAPC did an outstanding job of encapsulating the thoughts and feelings of the University community. The result is that the New Directions report reflects a strong sense of what the people who work and study here want and envision for Gallaudet's future.

"...the board also applauds the work done by the Diversity Fellows in developing two new strategic objectives. We commend the Gallaudet community for adopting the term 'inclusive deaf university.' The way 'inclusive deaf university' is used and defined represents a true vision of what the Gallaudet community should be for all its members. I want to briefly talk about the significance of each of the three words in 'inclusive deaf university.'

"**Inclusive** acknowledges that each person who comes to study or work at Gallaudet brings a different set of life experiences and perspectives to the University. By inclusive, the goal is to make sure that no one feels left out because of how much hearing they have or don't have, how they lost their hearing, their choice of schooling, language, religious beliefs, or who they choose to fall in love with. The use of 'inclusive' lets others know that we respect, include, and value the differences among us and what each individual brings to our collective experience here at Gallaudet.

"**Deaf** honors our proud history and heritage. We often use the word 'community' to mean having common interests or having something which ties us together. What ties us together here at Gallaudet? It is everyone's connection with the University's unique heritage as the only comprehensive, multipurpose university in the world for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Here at Gallaudet, visual languages and visual communication are an integral part of our everyday life. We pay attention to making sure everyone has access to communication, whether it is through sign, text, tactile, or spoken. Here at Gallaudet, we cherish our traditions and honor our alumni who blazed new paths of opportunity for us and for future generations of Gallaudet students.

"**University** represents an academic institution of higher education; a place of teaching and learning, research, and service. A university also represents the people who make the campus 'hum and buzz' day-in and day-out. The people who make Gallaudet University 'hum and buzz' every day range

from the youngest deaf child at the Clerc Center to the oldest alumni; from the freshman in the cafeteria to the custodian who keeps our campus surroundings beautiful; from the faculty member teaching her very first course to the longest serving member of the board. All contribute to the educational mission that our University is uniquely charted to perform. ...

### Board Strategic Development Efforts

"Just as the University has done, our board also brought in consultants and had a 'medical check-up' during the past year. We took some time out from our busy schedules to assess at where we have been, where we are now, and where we want to go.

#### "Where we have been.

When we talk about the work of a board, the most common definition is 'a governing body that determines University policy.' When we talk about how engaged a board is with the University, the extent of engagement can be described on a continuum from least involved to highly involved. I think it safe to say that in the past, especially pre-DPN, the extent of board involvement was probably closer to the 'least involved' part of the continuum. While the board did carry out its oversight responsibilities and act on matters of University policy, board members were not very visible on campus or in the Deaf community. In addition, since it was not common for Gallaudet to conduct capital campaigns, the board was not actively involved in fundraising. Furthermore, the board did not have to do a lot of 'homework' before coming to meetings because the agenda books were 'slim' compared to the agenda books we use today.

"**Where we are now.** The extent of board involvement now is probably closer to the 'highly involved' part of the continuum. Serving on the Gallaudet board sometimes requires as many hours as a full-time job. Even though the board has three regular meetings each year on campus, some of our committees work outside of our regular meetings throughout the year. Also, thanks to technology, we are in constant contact with each other through e-mail. I'm proud to say that Gallaudet's board is one of the hardest working and most dedicated groups of volunteers I have ever worked with.

"Even though we are a hard working group of volunteers, one of the difficult challenges for us as individual trustees is learning to balance and manage the many hats we all wear in our everyday lives. For example, some of the members of the board are also active members of the Deaf community. Because our Deaf community is small, there are many potential overlapping interests. Some of our board members come to the campus for reasons other than board work, such as to collaborate on scholarly projects or to serve on student doctoral committees. Some of our board members work at other schools and agencies or are active in professional and consumer organizations where they

have regular contact with our alumni and the deaf community at large. Regardless of what our role may be in these different situations, it is often not possible to take our Gallaudet board hats off. Sure, there are many advantages to having our Gallaudet board hats with us in different situations. It allows us opportunities to market and advocate for Gallaudet, and maybe even influence some potential students to consider attending Gallaudet.

"On the other hand, there are also some challenges because sometimes when people see us in a public situation, they want to talk to us about issues or concerns they have with Gallaudet. Since we represent the board, they also hope we can do something about the issues or their concerns. But, our responsibility is to encourage people to use the appropriate channels of communication and discuss their issues with the University administration. I believe more people are getting a better understanding of the role and responsibility of the board and I look forward to continuing our discussion and efforts in this area.

"...After our October meeting, the board stayed an extra day to participate in a two-day retreat. The invited AGB facilitator [who led the retreat] was an emeritus chair from a university in New York. He is also a member of the AGB Council of Board Chairs. We had several breakout groups that discussed themes identified from our survey responses. Through our breakout groups, we developed several recommendations in response to where we would like to go in the future as a board.

"...One outcome of the October retreat was to focus this February meeting on strategic board development. ...we decided for this February meeting to shorten our regular committee meetings to allow each committee time to have a closed session to discuss and share suggestions about ways to improve information sharing and the work of the committees. The outcomes of our meetings were very positive. I'm looking forward to receiving feedback from the meetings on ways we can further enhance the work of the committees.

### Closing

"...I began my remarks by using the analogy of the University and the board taking time out from our busy schedules to make a doctor's appointment to get a 'check-up.' We decided to get a 'check-up' because we were proactive and it is the right thing to do. We did not decide to get a 'check-up' because we thought something was wrong with us. The good news is the doctors have told us that based on our work with the Campus Climate Process, the New Directions report, the diversity strategic goals, and the board's strategic development efforts, the University and the board are in excellent health and well-positioned to achieve our visions for Gallaudet's future." G

## Board of Trustees announcements

*continued from page 1*

growing demand for qualified interpreters and for certified deaf interpreters, as well as the decision of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. to require a bachelor's degree of both deaf and hearing practitioners who wish to be certified.

Prior to receiving board approval, the two new degrees were reviewed and approved by the councils on graduate education and undergraduate education, respectively. Both degrees represent diligent work by the departments of education and interpretation, and both support the directions and priorities in Academic Affairs' long range plan, New Directions, and the mission and goals of the University.

The board also endorsed the appointment of Sue Decker to the University's Board of Associates. Formerly a manager of traditional relay, internet relay, and video relay services with AT&T in New Jersey, Decker recently formed her own consulting company.

A significant part of every board meeting is devoted to providing trustees with a status report of the University and the Clerc Center.

This is accomplished through a series of information sharing sessions between faculty, students, staff, and/or administrators, and the board's five committees. For example, at the February meeting: undergraduate and graduate students discussed the positive impact of co-curricular activities on overall student learning; a faculty panel described how various departments are supporting the five New Directions developed by the Academic Affairs Planning Committee; and Clerc Center teachers and staff presented information related to the National Mission and the programs that support it. In addition, representatives from the Offices of Finance and Development provided reports on FY 2004 final budget results and fundraising totals to date.

President Jordan also reported that additional funds awarded to the University through the federal appropriations process will be used to support new science labs, Clerc Center National Mission initiatives, and a collaborative program between the Department of Social Work and the Clerc Center. The president also presented service award pins to trustees Ken Levinson and Susan Dickinson for their respective 15 and 10 years of service to the University. G

## CAMPUS CALENDAR

### March

**4**—Undergraduate Open House, Kellogg Conference Hotel, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Performance: "First Annual Stephen M. Ryan Storytelling Night," Elstad Auditorium, 7 p.m., featuring Manny Hernandez, David Martin, and Ruth Reed, tickets are \$25, proceeds benefit the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies for the study and preservation of ASL storytelling; e-mail llynchryan@aol.com, angela.farrand@gallaudet.edu, or arlene.kelly@gallaudet.edu.

**5**—Interpretation Workshop: "Video Interpreting: Aspects of the Work," SAC 1210, 9 a.m.-noon

**6**—Baseball vs. SUNY-Plattsburgh (doubleheader), Hoy Field, noon; Interpretation Workshop: "Telephone Interpreting," Kellogg Conference Hotel 3100, 1-4 p.m.

**7**—Midterm grades due; Last day for undergraduate students to change Incomplete grades from previous semester

**7-9**—Course registration for 2005 Summer School for currently enrolled undergraduate students

**8**—Softball vs. Wilson (doubleheader), Softball Field, 3 p.m.; Men's Tennis vs. St. Mary's, Tennis Courts, 3:30 p.m.;

Workshop: "Electronic Books-What are they?," Merrill Learning Center MN12, 4-5 p.m.

**10-11**—Course registration for 2005 Summer School for graduate students

**10-13**—Mid-Atlantic Regional Academic Bowl, Maryland School for the Deaf, Frederick

**11**—Baseball vs. Catholic, Hoy Field, 3 p.m.; Performance: "An Evening of ASL Memoirs in Deaf Education," Elstad Auditorium, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

**12**—Baseball vs. Scranton (doubleheader), Hoy Field, noon

**14-18**—Spring Break; Workshop: "Shared Reading Project: Keys to Success-Training for Site Coordinators," SAC Multipurpose Room

**15**—Last day to submit defensible dissertation to Graduate School Office

**17-20**—Northeast Regional Academic Bowl, CAPS at Monty Tech High School, Fitchburg, Mass.

**19**—Baseball vs. Baptist Bible (doubleheader), Hoy Field, noon

**20**—Baseball vs. Christendom (doubleheader), Hoy Field, 2 p.m.





## ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Dear Aunt Sophie,

This is a question about e-mail etiquette. You may have addressed this before, but I don't recall your advice: Is it acceptable to 'BCC' others on an e-mail I send to someone without letting that person know? I know it happens all the time. I often get BCC'd on e-mails when it's obvious that the person getting the e-mail doesn't know I'm also reading it. I didn't think anything of this until someone on campus happened to mentioned something very specific that was in an e-mail sent to me by my supervisor—the only way the person could have known the information is if she/he was BCC'd. When I asked the person about it, she/he admitted that my supervisor had BCC'd her. All of a sudden I was really angry over the whole thing. Now what?

Angrily Confused

## STUDENTS AURUS

### Paulus Khouri: 'Best Buddies'

Paulus Khouri, a senior studying international relations, was a sophomore when he heard about Best Buddies International, a program placing mentors and friends with people with intellectual disabilities. He wanted to help people and decided to get involved.

"I enjoy participating in Best Buddies because I see the impact the program has on the lives of the people," Khouri said. Working with people with intellectual disabilities "really changes the way that you think about people and changes the way you see yourself at the same time," he said.

While his "buddies" in the past have not been affiliated with Best Buddies, they were the impetus for Khouri's involvement with the organization now. In Washington, D.C., Best Buddies has an affiliation with a group home with deaf residents. When the organization saw how the home residents responded to Khouri's using sign language, they wanted to make an effort at including deaf and hard of hearing people within their outreach strategies, according to Khouri.

Last semester, Khouri co-founded and became the director of the Best Buddies chapter at Gallaudet. Although interest was sparse during the fall semester, this semester several more students have joined.

His involvement in the program also has provided Khouri with opportunities for personal growth and to gain leadership experience. During the summer of 2004 Khouri attended a leadership conference at the University of Indiana, where he met students and professionals from all over the Western

Dear AC,

This is less a matter of etiquette than of ethics. Etiquette dictates that one wear white gloves to the annual faculty tea party hosted by President and Mrs. Jordan. Ethics, on the other hand, demands that one does not steal silverware from House One when attending the tea party—white gloves or not.

Motive is key when it comes to the ethics of BCCing e-mails. Auntie can think of a few—very few—good reasons for using the BCC option. One might be to keep private the e-mail addresses of a number of people receiving the same message. As a general rule of thumb, however, an e-mail sender should always make it known to the person receiving the e-mail that others are also seeing it. This can be done by using the CC option, or in the body of the e-mail message itself, e.g., "By the way, I'm copying this e-mail to the Office of Homeland Security." Another ethical alternative is to send each of the people whom one would have BCC'd separate e-mails with the same content. Of course, this requires more time and effort, but that's ethics for you.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS Exposé

### T.A.P.T. still going strong!

By Elvia Guillermo, Multicultural Student Programs coordinator, and Eloise Molock, Student Development Programs director

It is 11:50 a.m. on February 9 and a line has begun to form outside Flex Room A on the lower level of the Student Union Building. There is a group of people chatting and patiently waiting to gain entry into the room. At first glance, one could spot graduate and undergraduate students, faculty, staff, and administrators representing various divisions across the campus. What could such a diverse group of people have in common?

The date marked the first day of the spring session of Turning-A-Page-Together (T.A.P.T.). The program, sponsored by Multicultural Student Programs, began in 1998 and was originally made possible by a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Today, it is one of the cornerstone programs of Multicultural Student Programs and remains wildly popular with all facets of the Gallaudet community. This spring there are 30 partici-


pants enrolled in T.A.P.T.

The format for T.A.P.T. is probably no different from any book club with the exception that every book is specifically selected for its multicultural content. Each semester, several books are selected and presented to the campus community as the current T.A.P.T. book list. The spring 2005 selections are *Reading Lolita in Teheran*, *Gotham Diaries*, *It's All in the Frijoles*, *Cane River*, and *Kite Runner*. Two of this semester's books are current number-one bestsellers, one is a former Oprah Book Club selection, and one is recommended reading from the *Black Issues in Higher Education* Book Review.

Participants must complete a T.A.P.T. registration form and select a first and second choice of book preference. Group assignments are made prior to the first session and recruiting is done for a group leader. At the first meeting, introductions are made, discussions ensue about why people selected their particular book, and the group decides how they want to break up the readings for the remainder of

the semester. The reading schedule must allow time for the final meeting where each group picks a spokesperson to summarize the book, what was learned by participants, and the overall process that occurred over the last several weeks. Participants get a free lunch at each session and get to keep their book at the end of the semester. But the most valuable benefit is the opportunity for discussion of multicultural issues as they impact the characters in the books and the learning that occurs when the participants share their reactions to the readings.

In the Sunday edition of *The Washington Post* there is a feature article on local events, restaurants, activities, etc. which suggests to readers that they have not truly experienced Washington, D.C., if they haven't been exposed to these places or pastimes. In that same vein, we suggest that you have not truly experienced Gallaudet unless you have participated in T.A.P.T. We welcome you to join us and we welcome suggestions for books to include on the T.A.P.T. reading list.

For more information about T.A.P.T. or to make a book recommendation, e-mail [elvia.guillermo@gallaudet.edu](mailto:elvia.guillermo@gallaudet.edu). 

## AMONG OURSELVES

**Maria Waters** and **Judith Termini**, assistant coordinators for Gallaudet's First Year Experience, gave a pre-conference workshop, "Summer Reading Initiatives: Strategies That Work," at the Annual Conference on the First Year Experience held in Phoenix, Ariz., February 4 to 8.

**President Jordan** joined former Board of Trustees member **Carol Padden** and her husband, **Tom Humphries**—a new member of the board—the authors of *Inside Deaf Culture* and faculty members at the University of California, San Diego, for an interview on deaf culture on the February 2 edition of National Public Radio's (NPR) "Talk of the Nation." NPR's website carried a simultaneous text translation in real time for the broadcast.

**Dr. Pia Taavila**, a professor in the Department of English, has been presented the Denny C. Plattner Award for excellence in writing by the Berea College (Berea, Ky.) literary journal *Appalachian Heritage* for her poetry. In addition, Taavila had five poems published in the winter issue of *storySouth*, and five poems accepted for an upcoming issue of *The Ozark Mountaineer*.

Senior **Jenn Legg** was featured in a February 6 article in *The Washington Post* about hearing undergraduate students at Gallaudet. Post reporter **Manny Fernandez** gave an account of a typical day in Legg's life on Kendall Green as one of the small percentage of hearing students enrolled at the University and how the experience has provided them a unique opportunity to gain firsthand insights on deaf culture. To read the article, go online to [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com) and search for the article, "Turning the Volume Down."

**Tom Bull**, staff interpreter at Gallaudet Interpreting Service, presented at the 24th Annual Interpreter Symposium at California State University, Northridge, National Center on Deafness, January 14 to 15. Over 200 interpreters gathered to hear nine presenters on the theme: "Filling in the Gaps: Do You Know What You Don't Know?" Bull's track, "CODAs and Interpreting," included two multimedia presentations: "CODAs' Contributions to the Interpreting Field: The Past, Where We Fit Today and in the Future" and "Interpreter Certification for Coda Professionals: Important?" In addition, on February 23, Bull presented the "Deaf Family Issues: Codas and Identity" multimedia workshop at Gallaudet under the auspices of Multicultural Student Programs.



**Vickie Whetstone** (right), administrative secretary in the Office of Admissions, receives her 15-year service award from **Charity Reedy Hines**, director of admissions, while her co-workers extend their congratulations.